Is at last gasp : Return he cannot, nor Continue where he is : to shift his being [5], Is to exchange one misery with another; And every day, that comes, comes to decay A day's work in him : What shalt thou expect, To be depender on a thing that leans [6] ? Who cannot be new built; nor has no friends,
[The Queen drops a box : PISANIO takes it up. So much as but to prop him ?—Thou tak'st up Thou know'st not what; but take it for thy labour: It is a thing I made, which hath the king Five times redeem'd from death: I do not know What is more cordial:—Nay, I pr'ythee, take it; It is an earnest of a further good That *I* mean to thee. Tell thy mistress how The case stands with her; do't, as from thyself. Think what a chance thou changest on [7]; but think Thou hast thy mistress still; to boot, my son, Who shall take notice of thee: I'll move the king To any shape of thy preferment, such As thou'lt desire ; and then myself, I chiefly. That set thee on to this desert, am bound To load thy merit richly. Call my women : Think on my words. *[Exit Pis^J]*—A sly and constant knave ;

5 —to shift his being,] To change his abode. JOHNSON.

6 —that leans ?] That *inclines* towards its fall. JOHNSON.

7 Think what a CHANCE thou CHANGEST on ;] Such is the reading of the old copy, which by succeeding editors has been altered into—

" Think what a *chance* thou *chancest* on—; " And—

tc Think what a *change* thou *chancest* on—; " but unnecessarily. The meaning is : "Think with what a fair prospect of mending your fortunes you now change your present service.'* STEEVENS.

A line in our author's Rape of Lucrece adds some support to the reading—thou *chancest* on, which is much in Shakspeare's manner:

" Let there *bechance him* pitiful *mis-chances."* MALONE.